

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice or disclaimer thereof.

Listing of Claims

1-15 (canceled).

16. (New) A radio communication system comprising,
a reference station which transmits an azimuth designation signal having directivity toward a predetermined reference azimuth; and
a plurality of terminal stations, each of said terminal stations being arranged to receive the azimuth designation signal transmitted from the reference station, to obtain an arrival direction of the received azimuth designation signal, to generate a new azimuth designation signal having directivity in a direction having a predetermined angle with respect to the arrival direction of the azimuth designation signal, and to transmit the new azimuth designation signal with directivity in a direction designated by the azimuth designation signal.

17. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the receiving means is constructed so as to receive the azimuth designation signals transmitted from the reference station and another terminal station.

18. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16,

wherein the target terminal station comprises reference azimuth specifying means which detects a direction of the directivity of the azimuth designation signal generated by the azimuth designation signal generating means as a reference azimuth.

19. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the reference azimuth is set in the longitudinal direction of a service area of the radio communication system.

20. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the reference station is installed along a road and the reference azimuth is set in a direction along said road.

21. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, further comprising means which detects a reference plane to be referred when a communicating direction is determined.

22. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein each of the reference station and the plurality of terminal stations adds priority information to the azimuth designation signal and then transmits the resultant signal, and the azimuth designation signal generating means weights the plurality of received azimuth designation signals in accordance with the priority information to determine a transmitting direction of the azimuth designation signal.

23. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, further comprising priority adding means which adds priority to the azimuth designation signal, the priority decreasing each time transmission is performed.

24. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the terminal station comprises averaging means which averages the arrival directions obtained by the arrival direction obtaining means, and the azimuth designation signal generating means generates an azimuth designation signal having directivity in the direction opposite to the averaged arrival direction.

25. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the terminal station comprises means which extracts an electric power from the azimuth designation signal.

26. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, wherein the terminal station comprises means which superimposes an electric power on the azimuth designation signal.

27. (New) The radio communication system according to claim 16, comprising a charging management unit comprising a management table which holds communicating situations of the plurality of terminal stations, and a

charge determining section which determines a charge for each terminal station with reference to said management table in accordance with the communicating situation of the corresponding terminal station.

28. (New) An azimuth determining method for determining an azimuth in a terminal station, comprising the steps of: in a reference station, transmitting an azimuth designation signal so as to have directivity toward a predetermined reference azimuth; and in said terminal station, receiving said azimuth designation signal, obtaining an arrival direction of the azimuth designation signal, generating a new azimuth designation signal having directivity in a direction having a predetermined angle with respect to the arrival direction, transmitting said new generated azimuth designation signal, specifying a reference azimuth on the basis of the arrival directions of the azimuth designation signals transmitted from the reference station and the terminal station, and determining an azimuth on the basis of the specified reference azimuth.

29. (New) A mobile terminal unit comprising: receiving means which receives an azimuth designation signal, which is transmitted from a reference station so as to have directivity in a previously set reference azimuth; arrival direction obtaining means which obtains an arrival direction of said azimuth designation signal received by said receiving means; azimuth designation signal generating means which generates a new azimuth designation signal having directivity in a direction having a

predetermined angle with respect to the arrival direction of the azimuth designation signal; reference azimuth specifying means which detects the direction of the directivity of the new azimuth designation signal generated by said azimuth designation signal generating means as a reference azimuth; and transmitting means which transmits the azimuth designation signal generated by the azimuth designation signal generating means so as to have directivity in a direction designated by the azimuth designation signal.

30. (New) The mobile terminal unit according to claim 29, wherein the receiving means receives an azimuth designation signal transmitted from another mobile terminal unit, and the arrival direction obtaining means obtains the arrival directions of the azimuth designation signal transmitted from the reference station and the azimuth designation signal transmitted from the other mobile terminal unit.